

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for item selection comprising the steps of:

displaying a plurality of category labels along a helical surface having an axis, wherein said plurality of category labels identify groups of a plurality of items;

providing a said plurality of items on said helical surface;

selecting one of said plurality of items; and

clipping from view items on said helical surface which are above said a clipping plane.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said plurality of items includes at least one of: media items, software applications and features associated with a software application.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of displaying a helical surface further comprises the step of:

displaying said helical surface with said axis oriented substantially perpendicular to a plane associated with a display screen.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of:
tilting said axis of said helical surface by a predetermined tilt angle relative to perpendicular to said plane associated with said display screen.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said predetermined tilt angle is within the range of 30-60 degrees.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of providing a plurality of items on said helical surface further comprises the step of:
allocating a portion of said helical surface to each of said plurality of items.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said portion is wedge-shaped.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of:
displaying said helical surface with said axis oriented substantially parallel to a plane associated with a display screen.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of:
changing a view of said helical surface such that it is displayed with said axis oriented substantially parallel to said plane associated with said display screen.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
scrolling through said plurality of items using a free space pointing device.

13. (Currently Amended) A user interface executable on a computer-

readable medium, said user interface comprising:

- a helical surface having an axis;
- a plurality of items displayed on said helical surface;
- a plurality of category labels displayed along said helical surface;
- means for selecting one of said plurality of items; ~~and~~
- a clipping plane for clipping from view items on said helical surface

which are above said clipping plane[.]; and

displaying said user interface.

14. (Original) The user interface of claim 13, wherein said plurality of items includes at least one of: media items, software applications and features associated with a software application.

15. (Original) The user interface of claim 13, wherein said axis is oriented substantially perpendicular to a plane associated with a display screen.

16. (Original) The user interface of claim 15, wherein said axis of is tilted by a predetermined tilt angle relative to perpendicular to said plane associated with said display screen.

17. (Original) The user interface of claim 16, wherein said predetermined tilt angle is within the range of 30-60 degrees.

18. (Original) The user interface of claim 13, wherein each of said plurality of items displayed on said helical surface is allocated to a predetermined portion thereof.

19. (Original) The user interface of claim 18, wherein said portion is wedge-shaped.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Original) The user interface of claim 13, wherein said axis is oriented substantially parallel to a plane associated with a display screen.

22. (Original) The user interface of claim 21, further comprising a plurality of category labels along said helical surface which identify groups of said plurality of items.

23. (Original) The user interface of claim 15, further comprising:
means for changing a view of said helical surface such that it is displayed with said axis oriented substantially parallel to said plane associated with said display screen.

24. (Currently Amended) The user interface of claim 13, further comprising:
means for scrolling through said plurality of items using a free space pointing device.

25. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said helical surface comprises an outer helix, an inner helix and a surface therebetween.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein said outer helix has a first helical angle associated therewith and said inner helix has a second helical angle associated therewith, said first helical angle being different from said second helical angle.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein said surface is at least partially translucent or transparent.

28. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said axis is linear.

29. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of:
animating a transition between said step of displaying said helical surface with said axis oriented substantially perpendicular to said plane associated with said display screen and said step of changing said view of said helical surface such that it is displayed with said axis oriented substantially parallel to said plane associated with said display screen.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Original) The user interface of claim 13, wherein said helical surface comprises an outer helix, an inner helix and a surface therebetween.

32. (Original) The user interface of claim 31, wherein said outer helix has a first helical angle associated therewith and said inner helix has a second helical angle associated therewith, said first helical angle being different from said second helical angle.

33. (Original) The user interface of claim 31, wherein said surface is at least partially translucent or transparent.

34. (Original) The user interface of claim 13, wherein said axis is linear.

35. (Original) The user interface of claim 23, further comprising the step of:

animating a transition between said step of displaying said helical surface with said axis oriented substantially perpendicular to said plane associated with said display screen and said step of changing said view of said helical surface such that it is displayed with said axis oriented substantially parallel to said plane associated with said display screen.

36. (Original) The user interface of claim 31, wherein said outer helix and

said inner helix have at least one helical angle associated there with which varies as a function of length of said helical surface.

37. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing a program that performs the steps of:

- displaying a helical surface having an axis;
- providing a plurality of items on said helical surface;
- providing a plurality of category labels along said helical surface;
- selecting one of said plurality of items; and
- clipping from view items on said helical surface which are above said a clipping plane.

38. (Currently Amended) A method for item selection comprising the steps of:

- displaying a helical surface having an axis;
- providing a plurality of items on said helical surface;
- providing a plurality of category labels along said helical surface;
- selecting one of said plurality of items; and
- wherein said axis is substantially parallel to a plane associated with a screen on which said helical surface is displayed

39. (Currently Amended) A user interface executable on a computer-readable medium, said user interface comprising:

- a helical surface having an axis;
- a plurality of items displayed on said helical surface;
- a plurality of category labels along said helical surface;
- means for selecting one of said plurality of items; ~~and~~
- wherein said axis is substantially parallel to a plane associated with a screen on which said helical surface is displayed; and
- displaying said user interface.

40. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of:

displaying said helical surface having an axis, wherein said axis is circular and provides a wrap-around effect between ends of said helical surface.

41. (New) A method for item selection within a graphical user interface (GUI) comprising the steps of:

displaying a plurality of category labels along a helical surface having an axis, wherein said plurality of category labels identify groups of a plurality of items;

providing said plurality of items on said helical surface, wherein said plurality of items represent movies;

navigating said plurality of category labels through performing a screw turn motion with said helical surface;

selecting with a free space pointer one of said plurality of items;

clipping from view items on said helical surface which are above a clipping plane; and

displaying said user interface.

42. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein said step of displaying further comprises the step of:

displaying said helical surface having an axis, wherein said axis is circular and provides a wrap-around effect between ends of said helical surface.

43. (New) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
displaying at least two helical menus.

44. (New) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
slicing said helical surface with a moveable marking plane.

45. (New) The method of claim 41, further comprising:

displaying a background for the GUI upon which said helical surface is displayed.

46. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein said step of selecting further comprising:

using a gesture with said free space pointer to select one of said plurality of items.